



## **MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 2017**

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### **Commercial and Recreational Fisheries**

- October 1: Bay scallop season opened. The state reported ~345 bushels landed through Nov. 7.
- October 1: Blackfish Creek, Loagy Bay and Lt. Island areas opened to recreational fishermen. Our catch reports have documented more than 20 bushels of oysters and a few of quahogs.
- October 17: Vibrio season ended. Wellfleet had only two confirmed cases in five months, well below what Mass. DMF considers "normal," and especially impressive given our high summer landings: 4,371,705 Wellfleet oysters were sold in this time period for a value of \$2,426,048. *Please congratulate the shellfishermen you know in town for their incredible effort and success!*
- October 20: All spat-collecting devices were removed from Chipman's Cove. We pulled 20 that were left past the deadline.
- October 29: Chipman's Cove opened to commercial and recreational harvesters. Approximately 40 people turned out on a 2.0 tide with the Patriots playing...not bad!

### **Enforcement**

- The department began its 2017 grant inspections, covering about 40 leases on Indian Neck, Field Point and Blackfish Creek. A few return visits were needed for minor issues with no infractions.
- Deputy Constable Chris Manulla conducted boat patrols to document wet storage of shellfish.

### **State and Town Relations**

- Shellfish Constable Nancy Civetta met with Mass. DMF's Chris Schillaci about aquaculture ops.
- Constable Civetta has joined the Wellfleet Harbor Dredging Task Force.

### **Propagation**

- We are planning for our 2018 propagation efforts and continuing to explore options for an intertidal site to conduct our propagation efforts. Asst. Shellfish Constable John Mankevetch met with a property owner next to our current site with a positive outcome in the works.
- The department attended a meeting of the Barnstable County Shellfish Officers Association to discuss propagation efforts in 2017 and plans for the seed bid for 2018.

### **Education & Outreach**

- The department assisted AP Environmental Science students from Nauset Regional High School and teacher, Luke Simpson, on their 4th annual oyster study project in Mayo Creek and the Herring River. We provided oysters to the students, and Asst. Constable Mankevetch spoke to them about the life cycle of oysters and the work done by oyster growers in Wellfleet.
- We participated in the Wellfleet OysterFest. Constable Civetta ran the Shuck Off and used stage time both days to talk to the crowd about the Town's propagation efforts to create a sustainable future for the shellfishing industry and its importance to the Town. Asst. Constable Mankevetch led tours of the flats with visits to two family farms and explained our wild fishery.
- Media:
  - Parker, Teresa. The Provincetown Banner. "[On the B-Side with Johnny Mankevetch](#)," October 11, 2017. Profile piece on Asst. Constable Johnny "Clam" Mankevetch.
  - WOMR. "[Voices from the Wheelhouse](#)," October 15, 2017. Barbara Austin interviewed.
  - Ward, Katy. The Provincetown Banner. "[Wisbauer says Asian crabs snacking on baby oysters](#)," October 18, 2017. Constable Nancy Civetta quoted.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Civetta  
Shellfish Constable